MiG-21 aircraft crashes

†*3. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of MiG-21 aircrafts that crashed in the last five years;

(b) the number of pilots and army officials killed in such air crashes during the last five years; and

(c) the reasons for the continuous accidents of MIG-21 aircrafts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) There have been a total of 50 MiG-21 aircraft crashes in the last five years (1999-2000 to 2003-2004). During the current financial year (up to 24th November, 2004) one MiG-21 has crashed.

A total of 28 Air Force pilots have been killed in these accidents. No army official has been killed in any of these crashes.

The causes of these accidents are Human Error, Technical Defect and Bird Hit.

Fighter flying, by its very nature, is inherent to risk. As such, the accidents can only be minimised at best. Besides, MiG-21 forms the bulk of IAF fighter inventory. Hence, the maximum IAF accidents have occurred on MiG-21 aircraft. However, the crash data of IAF shows a considerable decline in the number of accidents on these aircrafts in the recent years.

Strategy for Commonwealth Games 2010

*4. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a sports strategy and plan in place in view of the coming 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT) : (a) to (c) A multi-pronged strategy for preparation and conduct

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.